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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISR 12 DEC 49

SUBJECT 1. Communist Artillery Superiority
2. Communist Military and Political Difficulties

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1. Superiority of the Chinese Communist troops over the Nationalist troops in the fighting south of the Yangtze River and in the north Kwangtung battles was mainly because of the Communist artillery [REDACTED] The Communists have among their artillery pieces a large number of bazookas*, which were easily transported through the mountainous terrain of the Kwangtung-Kiangsi border. 25X1
2. Communist General CHEN Yi's 3 Field Army is reported to have refused orders to move to the South China battle fronts, having preferred the comforts of the Shanghai-Nanking area [REDACTED] Forty percent of the soldiers and officers in the army are former Nationalist troops, and 30 percent are new draftees from the rural district. The remaining 30 percent are well-trained, seasoned Communist troops with a service record of more than two years. There is a serious shortage of CCP members among the troops. Almost all of the corporals are Chinese Communist Party (CCP) members, but most of the second and first sergeants are not CCP members.** 25X1
3. There are reports of factional frictions among CCP members. New members try to establish their influence and to exclude old members from their circles. Members working with laborers are developing friction with members working with intellectuals. CCP members from Shantung hold most of the administrative positions in Chekiang, and members from other provinces have difficulty in obtaining posts there. The magistrate of An Chih, Chekiang, who is said to be an illiterate peasant, has trouble with CCP student workers.***

* [REDACTED] Comment. Lack of artillery used to be a Communist weakness, but this seems to have been overcome. [REDACTED] concerning the sale of bazookas. 25X1

** [REDACTED] Comment. It is doubtful that any large number of troops could effectively refuse to leave the Nanking-Shanghai area. 25X1

*** [REDACTED] Comment. Provincialists seem to be creeping into CCP groups. 25X1

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